

RECOGNIZING DANIEL J. WILLIAMS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel J. Williams, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 167, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. In his service, Daniel was instrumental in the development of a basketball court in the Winston city park.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel J. Williams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations to the American Jewish Committee (AJC) as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The early 1900s were a very challenging and tumultuous time for Jewish-Americans. For decades prior, millions of Eastern European Jews immigrated to the United States to flee political and religious persecution. By coming to America, these brave people took monumental steps toward freedom, but even on America's more welcoming shores, they often encountered discrimination and economic hardship. Meanwhile, in the countries from which they fled, the persecution and danger against Jews intensified. The pogroms in Russia left thousands of innocent Jews dead, and many more wounded or without homes. In 1906, striving to end the senseless violence and discrimination perpetuated against their people across the world, a small group of Jewish Americans came together to create the American Jewish Committee, an organization committed to ending anti-Semitism, promoting pluralism and religious freedom, and protecting human rights.

Although the task before them was often daunting, they succeeded at raising national and international awareness to the crimes being committed in Europe this time. Often, this awareness was sparked by collaborative efforts with organizations of different faiths. As anti-Semitism spread prior to its horrendous climax in the Holocaust during World War II, the AJC was one of the first organizations to bring the issue to the forefront by lobbying political leaders, the international community, and appealing to the media.

Since that time, the AJC's positive impact has been felt around the world. The AJC was instrumental in developing many of the provisions included in the United Nations Charter, and later would advocate for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. They also provided invaluable research to the plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case *Brown v. the Board of Education* which ended racial segregation. During the 1960s, the AJC worked tirelessly with the Catholic Church to foster a productive friendship between the two faiths. This culminated in the Church's release of *Nostra Aetate*, a document officially condemning any animosity by Catholics against Jews. And in 1965, the AJC recognized Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the American Liberties Medallion in honor of his efforts to end racial intolerance.

The AJC's Jacob Blaustein Institute continues to work with international organizations to monitor war crimes and intolerance, as well as providing humanitarian aid to victims of natural disasters, refugees of war, and suffering around the globe. To this day, the AJC remains strongly committed to strengthening interfaith relations to ensure that when they speak on issues of great concern to the world, they are speaking on behalf of all humanity, not just the Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, the American Jewish Committee's 100th anniversary is a tremendous achievement. Even more remarkable are the contributions the AJC has provided during its existence. The AJC has built a tremendous reputation, and continually strives for religious freedom, equality, and tolerance. Although it is called the American Jewish Committee, the goals they set forth and the feats they have accomplished are valued by members of all faiths, all nations, all people. I congratulate the AJC on its anniversary, and wish this extraordinary organization more success in the future.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS. YVONNE E. MILLINER BOWSKY AND THE PEACE CORPS SCHOOL

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding Virgin Islands woman, Mrs. Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky.

Mrs. Bowsky's career of service and dedication to her family, her community, her students and to the Virgin Islands as a whole can be summed up in one word—phenomenal.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to being a devoted wife, mother and teacher—life's paths which taken separately or together are challenging in and of themselves—Mrs. Bowsky has also served the Virgin Islands community as a professor at the College and University of the Virgin Islands, an entrepreneur, a gubernatorial campaign manager, and as special assistant for audits and control to the Governor she guided to victory, the late Alexander Farrelly. In addition to these accomplishments, her premier role was principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School which has been named in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, just as she was not an ordinary campaign manager, entrepreneur or

teacher, she was not an ordinary principal. As the first principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School, she was the strong hand and determined intellect that guided what will now be known as the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School from a complex of empty and abandoned dormitories turned over to the Virgin Islands Government by the Peace Corps into a vibrant elementary school which opened in 1973. Her vision made it possible to relieve the overcrowded conditions at other schools in St. Thomas and improve the educational environment for our children.

The school named in her honor is now a modern facility, with eight brand new buildings housing 400 students, and is a bulwark of the public education system in our islands. Since its beginning in 1973, the Peace Corps Elementary School campus has been destroyed several times by hurricanes and other unfortunate events. But, it has managed to rise several times from the ashes and today—in large part because of her legacy—it has achieved this milestone. Now, as its crowning glory, it has been named for its mother—Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky. Beyond the buildings, everyone can attest that because of her vision and her dedication and those who followed and are still following in her footsteps, this school has become a place of academic excellence.

Mr. Speaker, the students of the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School will always have in her an excellent role model to look up to and to be inspired by. Her excellence and achievement in so many areas is testament of what is possible if one works hard, is focused and is determined to serve and to do the best of one's ability.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I am honored to come before this Congress and offer my profound congratulations to Mrs. Bowsky and her family for this most deserved honor.

I wish her and all who administer, serve and learn at the Yvonne Milliner Bowsky Elementary School God's richest blessings.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Onondaga Community College Men's Lacrosse Team on their NJCAA National Championship. Onondaga Community College, OCC, defeated Suffolk Community College by a score of 30–6, giving the school their first men's lacrosse national title.

The championship victory culminated a season in which the OCC Lazers went undefeated with an 18–0 mark, outscoring their opponents 445–80 along the way. With their display of dominance throughout the year, it is clear that OCC was the best junior college team in 2006 and arguably the best in history.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Head Coach Chuck Wilbur, Assistant Coaches Mike Villano, Joe Villano, and Chris Brim on their team's success. I look forward to the 2007 season when the Lazers take the field to defend their national title.